

## Department of Veterans Affairs

## §21.414

(e) *Chairperson.* The Secretary will designate one of the members of the committee to chair the committee.

(f) *Ex-officio members.* The committee shall also include ex-officio members named by the following agencies. The ex-officio members shall include one representative from:

(1) The Veterans Health Services and Research Administration;

(2) The Veterans Benefits Administration;

(3) The Rehabilitation Services Administration and one from the National Institute for Handicapped Research of the Department of Education; and

(4) The Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment of the Department of Labor.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3121(a))

### §21.402 Responsibilities of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation.

(a) *Consultation with the Secretary.* The Secretary shall regularly, but not less than twice yearly, consult with and seek the advice of the committee with respect to the administration of veterans' rehabilitation programs authorized under Title 38, United States Code.

(b) *Submission of an annual report.* The committee shall:

(1) Submit to the Secretary an annual report on the rehabilitation programs and activities of the VA; and

(2) Submit such other reports and recommendations to the Secretary as the committee determines appropriate.

(c) *Contents of the committee's annual report.* The committee's annual report shall include:

(1) An assessment of the rehabilitation needs of veterans; and

(2) A review of the programs and activities of VA designed to meet needs identified in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(d) *Secretary's annual report.* The findings of the committee shall be incorporated in the Secretary's annual report submitted to the Congress under 38 U.S.C. 529. In addition the Secretary shall submit, together with this annual report, a copy of all reports and recommendations of the committee submitted to the Secretary since the pre-

vious annual report was submitted to the Congress.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 3121(c))

### ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION

#### §21.410 Delegation of authority.

The Secretary delegates authority to the Under Secretary for Benefits to make findings and decisions under 38 U.S.C. chapter 31 and regulations, precedents, and instructions that affect vocational rehabilitation services for disabled veterans. The Under Secretary for Benefits may further delegate this authority to supervisory and non-supervisory Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment staff members.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 512(a))

[62 FR 17710, Apr. 11, 1997]

#### §21.412 Finality of decisions.

(a) *Facility of original jurisdiction.* The decision of a VA facility in a given veteran's case:

(1) Will be final and binding upon all field stations of VA as to conclusions based on evidence on file at that time; and

(2) Will not be subject to revision on the same factual basis except by duly constituted appellate authorities or except as provided in §§21.410 and 21.414. (See §§19.153, 19.154, and 19.155.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 512(a), 7103)

(b) *Adjudicative determinations.* Current determinations of line of duty, character of discharge, relationship, and other pertinent elements affecting eligibility for training and rehabilitation services or payment of subsistence allowance under Chapter 31, made by an adjudicative activity by application of the same criteria and based on the same facts, are binding upon all other adjudicative activities in the absence of clear and unmistakable error.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 512(a))

#### §21.414 Revision of decision.

The revision of a decision on which an action is based is subject to the following regulations:

(a) Clear and unmistakable error, §3.105(a);